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ETHIOPIA

GROUP OF ETHIOPIAN ETHNIC SOMALI SOLDIERS DESERT

LD212035Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] SUNA has reported that 21 soldiers of Somali origin with Ethiopian citizenship from the Harar Region have recently sought asylum in the country and asked the Sudanese authorities to help them return to their original homeland, Somalia. The Sudanese authorities are now taking the necessary steps in this connection.

It is worth noting that these soldiers have been trained in the use of various sophisticated weapons by the Ethiopian authorities using Cuban instructors.

DAGAHABUR RESIDENTS RETURN FROM RELIEF CENTERS

LD221538Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1030 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Summary] A total of 185 residents of Dagahabur, who took flight in the face of the recent invasion of the reactionary Siad Barre's troops, returned to Dagahabur yesterday after having been in shelters in Harar. They were taken back to their homes by the relief and rehabilitation commission and the Ethiopian Red Cross. The district provisional rehabilitation committee is making the necessary studies and preparations to help those whose homes and properties have been destroyed.

ERITREAN SPOKESMAN REJECTS PRAVDA ACCUSATION

LD221545Y Rome L'UNITA in Italian 18 Mar 78 p 15 LD

[Guido Bimbi report: "The Eritreans: 'We Are Not Fighting for the Imperialists'"]

[Text] Rome--The Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] yesterday officially responded to a PRAVDA article which accused the Eritrean movement of serving the interests of reactionaries and imperialists.

EPLF Central Committee member Andemichael Kassai issued the response to journalists during a press conference at FLM [expansion unknown] headquarters. The statements that the nature of the Eritrean struggle does not depend on "foreign definitions" and that "the EPLF's progressive nature is shown not only by its watchwords but also by its work among the Eritrean masses and its efforts to create a new society."

It goes on to say: "The Eritrean revolution is not an instrument of foreign imperialist forces. As a revolutionary force, the EPLF has created the material conditions required for the Eritrean people to maintain their neutrality and independence.

The document also maintains that Soviet support for Ethiopian repression in Eritrea "is considerably weakening the revolutionary forces and creating fertile ground for American imperialist initiatives."

It goes on to reject the Ethiopians' desire for access to the sea as a justifiable motive for refusing to grant Eritrean independence: "Ethiopian access to the sea," the statement maintains, "is a point which can and must be discussed and settled between two sovereign states and cannot be imposed by force and with foreign intervention." It points out that the Soviet Union rejected this very argument when the United States supported it in 1950.

Andemichael Kassai then revealed that the EPLF has received messages of solidarity from various African countries which had previously avoided expressing an opinion on the Eritrean problem and that people's front delegations have been invited to visit Algeria, Mozambique and Madagascar. The visit to Algeria has already been planned for 20 March. He also pointed out that the attitude of these African countries clearly distinguishes between the Ogaden problem and the Eritrean problem and said that the Libyan Government has protested over Ethiopia's policy in Eritrea.

In the military field he pointed out that there had been a major battle near Asmara on 14 and 15 March in which the Ethiopian Army had used 10,000 men and 20 tanks. The battle was fought along a 30-km front and was intended to raise the siege on the Eritrean capital. It ended after bloody clashes with the Ethiopian troops reentering Asmara.

According to the EPLF representative, Ethiopia is preparing for a massive offensive. Some 15,000 men have already been assembled in the Tigre Region for this purpose, while thousands more, including 3,500 Cubans, have apparently been airlifted to Asmara and bases have been set up on the Dahlak islands opposite Massawa. The Eritrean representative said that, for this same purpose, "napalm bombardments of villages and towns in the liberated zone have more than quadrupled in recent weeks. Residential zones and the whole economic infrastructure of Massawa," he affirmed, "have been reduced to ashes. Some 30,000 people have fled from Massawa alone and have taken refuge in the liberated zones or in Sudan. Napalm bombs were dropped on Keren hospital, which serves only the civilian population." Furthermore, according to information supplied by Andemichael Kassai, the Ethiopian troops beseiged in the port of Massawa and holding 2,000 people "hostage" and some of these have already been sent to Ethiopia while they are "encircling the whole town of Asmara with electrified barbed wire."

He then stressed the Eritreans' willingness to try to find a peaceful solution to the conflict and asked for solidarity from Italian democratic and progressive forces, intervention by the United Nations and the OAU, the withdrawal of foreign troops from Eritrea, recognition of the Eritrean people's right to self-determination and independence and the recognition of the EPLF and ELF as the legitimate representatives of the Eritrean people.

Andemichael Kassai ended by denouncing the serious reactionary maneuvers to prevent the two fronts from uniting. In this respect he accused "a certain number of countries in the region" of trying to strengthen groups through which "they think they can impose their influence and interfere in Eritrea." He particularly condemned the small group led by 'Uthman Salih Sabi which invited "Arab friends" to send 20,000 men and $30 million.
[paragraph continues]

The EPLF representative said that Sabi's requests had already been partly met and that Iran is already training "1,200 Eritrean mercenaries," 300 of whom have already been sent into the country. Andemichael Kassai concluded: "The EPLF is determined to crush these plots which are intended to strip the Eritrean people of their revolutionary conquests. Any attempt to interfere in our internal affairs and any mercenary from any country will be fiercely opposed."

He firmly denied statements made by the Cabinda Enclave Liberation Front, the Angolan secessionist movement, that Cuban soldiers captured in Cabinda had been killed out of solidarity and in cooperation with the Eritrean movement. The reply read: "We categorically maintain that we have no relations with and do not recognize this group of mercenaries in the pay of French imperialism. And we wish to state that the Eritrean people do not need that sort of solidarity."

When he opened the press conference, the EPLF leader expressed his central committee's solidarity with Italian democratic forces "at a time when attempts are being made to attack Italian democracy with the kidnaping of Moro."

ADDIS: LOOTERS BROUGHT TO 'REVOLUTIONARY JUSTICE'

LD211130Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] Revolutionary justice has been meted out against three individuals for serious antipeople and antirevolutionary crimes they have committed in Higher 8 Kebele 14 in the Gullale area of Addis Ababa.

The Addis Ababa police criminal investigation department said yesterday that the ringleaders of the counterrevolutionaries and his two accomplices were engaged in extortion and looting for some time and terrorizing residents of the Kebele, who had collected personal fortunes through extortion and threatening peaceful citizens, were exposed by the people and genuine revolutionaries in Kebele 14.

The police warned that infiltrators and pseudorevolutionaries who tried to drive a wedge between the masses and the popular revolution will never be able to hide themselves from the broad masses.

EPRP COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES DIE IN DASE 'RED TERROR'

LD201858Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1030 GMT 20 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Wallo administrative region Revolutionary Operations Command has reported that a number of members of the petty fascist Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party [EPRP] who had fled from the ongoing red terror in Addis Ababa and other towns to make the Dase a haven for counterrevolutionaries and others who are in hiding to commit counterrevolutionary acts have been liquidated in a recent mopping-up operation. These EPRP hired killers were captured while entering Dase town by bus and on foot from various directions, pretending to be peaceful and holding different identity cards. A number of weapons and subversive pamphlets were found in their possession.

The region Revolutionary Operation Command reported that other leading EPRP members and their associates who had been entrenched in this town waiting for an opportune moment to kill progressives were wiped out by red terror before they could unleash white terror.

The red terror is continuing with revolutionary discipline.

KENYA

WAIYAKI REJECTS SALISBURY AGREEMENT AS INADEQUATE

LD221132Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Dr Munya Waiyaki, has said that Kenya is convinced that the internal settlement signed in Rhodesia with rebel Ian Smith cannot bring the desired change in that country. It was for this reason, he said, that the Kenyan delegation to the recent OAU Council of Ministers meeting in Tripoli, Libya, spearheaded the rejection of the Rhodesian internal settlement between rebel Ian Smith and internally based liberation groups.

Dr Waiyaki was receiving the ambassador of Norway, Mr Andersen, who called on him in Nairobi yesterday.

Dr Waiyaki pointed out that both the OAU Ministerial Council and the UN Security Council understand the inherent dangers of the internal settlement. That is why they had rejected it outright.

The Norwegian ambassador told Dr Waiyaki that Nordic countries considered it essential that all liberation movements in Rhodesia must participate in that country's independence talks. About sanctions, he also agreed that UN sanctions against Rhodesia must continue until that colony attains majority rule.

WAIYAKI DISCUSSES SOMALI BORDER PROBLEM

LD171146Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 17 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Dr Waiyaki, has said that the people of Kenya are not opposed to friendly coexistence with the people of Somalia, because Kenyans regards Somali as brothers.

Kenyans are opposed to and would not entertain the continued claims by Somalia's leader of the concept of a Greater Somalia. Dr Waiyaki stated this when he received at his office the outgoing ambassador of Burundi to Kenya, Mr Juvenal Kamenge. Dr Waiyaki told the ambassador that the Government of Kenya is prepared to work with the Government of Somalia in a joint commission for areas around the common border between the two countries. He said that in order to display her sincerity in such undertakings, the Government of Somalia must first renounce her claims over Kenya's territory. The minister said that as long as the idea of a Greater Somalia still lingers on in the minds of officials and appearing in documents in Somalia [as heard] the concept of free and feasible development of the area will not appear to be a reality.

He said that the fear will continue to haunt the minds of ordinary people as they fear that one day they might wake up and find their well-developed economic programs are ruined, probably through bombing.

The minister said that it is not only Kenya which should be concerned over this matter, but other states such as Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, eastern Zaire and southern Sudan, which use facilities at the Port of Mombasa, because any interruption of normal business of the port was bound to seriously dislocate the economies of these countries.

On the presence of superpowers in the region, the minister told the ambassador that Kenya has for many years opposed their presence, which could jeopardize economic progress in the continent.

The outgoing ambassador has said that his country would like to cooperate with Kenya in order to learn from Kenya methods of her economic development. He told Dr Waiyaki that his country respects President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta as an inspiring leader who could offer exemplary lessons to other developing countries. He said Burundi supports peaceful settlement of disputes between African states through the OAU.

QUARANTINE IMPOSED ON ENTRANTS FROM TANZANIA

LD221242Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] Kenya yesterday closed her border with Tanzania at two points, Taveta and Lunga Lunga, in an effort to contain cholera. The disease broke out in Kwale District of coast province last week. Disclosing this in Mombasa, the coast provincial commissioner, Mr Mahihu, said he had informed the Tanzanian regional commissioner for Moshi and Tanga of the action. He said Tanzanians entering Kenya through those two points should be put under quarantine until medically cleared. Mr Mahihu explained that the move was a matter of saving lives and not a political one. He added that if the disease persisted until next week, more joint efforts between Kenya and Tanzania might be preferred. Meanwhile, the people of Kwale have been advised not to waste their time referring cholera cases to witchdoctors. Cholera cases should be rushed to hospital immediately, the area district commissioner, Mr Nyarangi, urged.

SOMALIA

SIAD BARRE MEETING WITH RETURNEE STUDENTS REPORTED

LD221212Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] The general secretary of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP], president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, yesterday closed a seminar for the students who have returned from Russia and Cuba at the police academy here.

The conflict in the Horn of Africa today has created both political and military confrontation in various fields. The SRSP decision on the expulsion of the Russians from Somalia and the break of diplomatic relations with Cuba followed these two countries participation in the war against the liberation fronts of Western Somalia and Abo. Somalia decided to bring back its students in both Russia and Cuba as far as these two countries ignored to respect the right of the Somali nation for national integrity and sovereignty. Also the Somali students there were unwilling to continue their education in countries that totally oppose their existence as a nation.

Soon after these students returned to the SDR, members of the SRSP gave them lectures on the political and social development realized in the country during their (?scholarships). The secretary general of the SRSP, president of the SDR, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, in his speech on the occasion, said that these difficult circumstances could be overcome by unity, self-confidence and hard work. The president congratulated the students on their high regard for the national interest and their choice to sacrifice their private interest for the cause of the nation in opting to fully endorse their government's position in the wake of the deterioration of relations between our country and these states. The president said the students have shown themselves to be the true sons and daughters of their nation. He said that their action will ever be remembered and assured them that they would be accorded every opportunity to complete their studies in both local and foreign educational institutions.

Challe Siad, the president of the SDR, underscored the importance of academic advancement for the nation's social, economic and political development and the revolutionary government's commitment to train the youth for the country's future leadership. The president, Challe Siad, pointed out that the country has achieved great success in this field thanks to the introduction of the Somali scrip, which, he said, has made it possible to establish schools in most of the remote parts of the country. The president said that the nation has taken great strides in its pursuit of economic progress and self-reliance. Our aim is to work for the improvement of our people's lives through our own efforts, the president said.

The president said that our foreign policy is geared for nonalinement and cooperation with other nations who respect and regard for our sovereignty. The revolution was born out of the need to safeguard the nation's sovereignty and still pledged itself towards these goals, whatever hardships we might face, he declared, the president said: Lasting peace can only be achieved in the area when the rights of the Somali people to self-determination are recognized and foreign forces are totally withdrawn from the territory.

UGANDA

AMIN TELLS PEOPLE GAS SHORTAGE IS TEMPORARY

LD162038Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] Life President Amin has appealed to the people of Uganda not to hoard petrol or be unnecessarily alarmed about the present shortage of petroleum products in the country. He assured the whole country that following the undertakings that have been made by Kenya and the cooperation that is developing between the two countries, shortage of petroleum products is only temporary and the government does therefore not intend to introduce rationing of fuel. The life president was being briefed at the command post by the minister of transport, communications and works, Mr Paul Etiang, who returned from Nairobi last week, where he held bilateral discussions at the levels of the ministers of transport, power, communications and works. The meeting was held between the 8th and 10th of this month in accordance with the directions of the joint ministerial committee meeting between Kenya and Uganda which was held in Kampala in February this year.

The minister said the discussions in Nairobi were on matters of mutual interest between Uganda and Kenya, and in particular on issues of terms of reference given by the ministerial meeting in Kampala in February this year.

Such issues include the coordination of interstate railway services and relevant tariffs and rationalization of payments, harmonization of development of interstate railways, posts and telecommunications, customs, ports, airways and other relevant matters.

Mr Etiang assured the life president that the two sides had executed their duties in a free, frank, sincere and cordial atmosphere.

The details of the discussions in Nairobi are still confidential and will be reported to the next joint ministerial meeting.

It is, however, understood that regular and assured train services to Uganda, including one carrying petroleum products daily to Uganda, have been guaranteed by Kenya railway services and that outstanding financial claims by Kenya railways from Uganda railways were finally resolved. It is also understood that Mr Etiang revealed to Life President Amin that the current shortage of petroleum products in the country was due to a number of confidential factors, such as the (?recent breakdown) at the refinery in Mombasa, the commissioning of the 600 km Mombasa-Nairobi oil pipeline which caused a lot of [word indistinct] oil to be accumulated in the pipeline, the high and sudden increase of vehicles being imported into the country and the rapid train services [as heard] within Kenya.

Other matters discussed included customs arrangements and interstate air services following the collapse of the East African community which used to provide these common services to the three East African countries.

AMIN MEETS PRC AMBASSADOR; PRAISES PRC EXPATRIOTS

LD222124Y Kampala International Service in English 1615 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] President Amin has praised the policy of the Chinese Government of not interfering in internal affairs of other countries and assured the Chinese Government that he will do everything possible to strengthen further the already existing relations of friendship and cooperation that exist between Uganda and the PRC. The [life] president was receiving the credentials of the new Chinese ambassador to Uganda, Mr Tai Lu. The ceremony took place at the Nile Mansion. The [life] president praised the work of the Chinese expatriates in Uganda, especially those at the Kibimba rice scheme. He said he had requested the Chinese Government to extend the period the Chinese expatriates [can] stay in Uganda because he wants similar rice schemes to be spread all over Uganda.

The president also told the envoy that it is his intention to see Uganda has good roads, rail communications not only within but also with the other neighboring countries.

CAMEROON

AHIDJO CALLS FOR UNITY OF RHODESIAN NATIONALISTS

PA221713Y Paris AFP in French 1542 GMT 22 Mar 78 PA

[Excerpt] Yaounde, 22 Mar (AFP)--President Ahmadou Ahidjo of Cameroon has declared that "the unity of the Zimbabwe nationalists is essential if the desired goal is to be attained, that is, the transfer of power to the black majority."

CHAD

FROLINAT PROGRAM TO BE PRESENTED AT SEBHA TALKS

PA211325Y Paris AFP in English 1300 GMT 21 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Paris, March 21 (AFP)--Chad National Liberation front (FROLINAT) leaders who are to begin crucial talks today at Sebha (central Libya) with officials from the Chad central government, outlined an eight-point programme last night to make Chad a peoples' democracy. The front's political programme was broadcast by Libyan radio and monitored here [number indistinct] hours after the formation of a Revolutionary Council by FROLINAT's three armed factions.

The programme calls for:

"The overthrow of the dictatorial neo-colonial regime imposed by France on Chad since the 11 August 1960 when the country became independent.

"Protection of territorial integrity and suppression of secessionist activities.

"Formation of a democratic popular and progressive government guaranteeing individual, religious, trade union and press freedom.

"Establishment of diplomatic relations with all countries except Rhodesia, Israel and South Africa....application of a foreign policy based on national independence, support for liberation movements and active defence of world peace."

The programme also provides for a series of economic reforms, including:

"Radical land reform to give the "land to those who farm it."

"Improvement of conditions for workers and more jobs for the unemployed.

"Protection of indigenous businessmen against competition by foreign firms, suppression of imperialist economic monopolies, nationalisation of key sectors and implementation of a just and reasonable taxation policy."

In education, the programme calls for:

"Edification of a progressive and democratic education and culture and the adoption of Arabic and French as official languages, further efforts to eradicate illiteracy and introduction of free and compulsory education."

GUINEA

FOREIGN COMMERCE MINISTER BARRY, DELEGATION VISIT PRC

For Peking NCNA reportage on the 13-20 March visit of Guinean Minister of Foreign Commerce Sikoun Barry and the delegation he headed to the People's Republic of China, see the Middle East & Africa subsection of the International Affairs section of the 22 March People's Republic of China DAILY REPORT.

IVORY COAST

CEAO COMMITTEE MEETS TO DISCUSS ENERGY PROBLEMS

PA222212Y Paris AFP in French 1759 GMT 22 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Abidjan, 22 Mar (AFP)--The Permanent Energy Committee of the West African Economic Community (CEAO) has been meeting since Wednesday in Abidjan to examine the problems being faced in the area of hydrocarbons by the six member states of the community: Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal.

The members of the committee will devote themselves to drafting proposals to be submitted to the CEAO Council of Ministers regarding supplies, distribution and the establishment of reserves, measures to be taken in the event of reduced reserves [rupture des stocks], the possible creation of a [words indistinct] and rapprochement of the regulations and legislation in effect in the six countries.

NIGERIA

BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR

LD220936Y Lagos International Service in English 0730 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Nigeria and the Soviet Union have taken another step to promote trade relations between them. To this end another bilateral trade agreement has been signed in Lagos by the two countries. Under the accord, Nigeria will receive from the Soviet Union technical equipment, shipping and navigational instruments as well as trucks and heavy duty machinery.

On the other hand, the Soviet Union will import coconut fibers, textiles and sawn timber from Nigeria. The two countries have also agreed to establish trade missions in each other's capital city.

The agreement, which covers a period of 6 years, was signed for Nigeria by the commissioner for trade, Maj Gen Mohammed Shuwa. He remarked that the event was a further manifestation of the government's efforts to boost international trade. The Soviet deputy minister of foreign trade, Mr Manzhulo, represented his country.

The first agreement, which expired 2 days ago, was signed in 1963.

ANGOLA

GROUP OF CUBAN TEACHERS GOES TO ANGOLAN PROVINCES

FL221240Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Members of the Che Guevara Internationalist Teaching Detachment have begun to leave for the Angolan provinces for their assignments in Benguela, Uige, Lunda and Cuanza Norte.

Second Group Arrives

FL221243Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Reports from the Angolan capital state that the second group of the Cuban Che Guevara Internationalist Teaching Detachment has arrived in Luanda, while the first group began to leave for the Angolan provinces. The 127 members of the second group of the detachment were received at Belas Airport by PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Jorge Risquet and Noel Sanchez, from the Cuban civilian mission directorate committee.

NETO RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM BOTSWANA PRESIDENT

FL212130Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1903 GMT 21 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Botswana President Seretse Khama has sent Angolan chief of state Agostinho Neto a personal message on the situation in southern Africa. The document will be delivered by Botswana Minister of External Affairs (Jospeh Legualigo), who arrived in Luanda bearing the message and was received at the airport by his Angolan counterpart Paulo Jorge.

(Legualiga) pointed out that his government also condemns the so-called internal agreement signed by Ian Smith and the moderate groups of Zimbabwe, and reiterated that the armed struggle will continue until true independence in the territory is attained. The Botswana foreign minister recalled that his country is constantly under attack by the Rhodesian racist regime, the last one causing 15 deaths among the civilian population.

Sereste Khama's visit [as heard] to Angola is directly related to the efforts being made by the frontline nations.

MOZAMBIQUE

UN CONDEMNATION OF SALISBURY DEAL WELCOMED

LD161344Y Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 16 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Text] A spokesman for the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe in Maputo yesterday hailed the decision of the UN Security Council to condemn the internal Salisbury agreement signed by Ian Smith, Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau. The spokesman, Simon Muzenda, said he regares the UN resolution as concrete evidence that the international community supports the just struggle of 7 million Zimbabweans for the true independence of their country.

Muzenda also appealed to all countries in the world and to all the progressive movements and political parties to close ranks with the Patriotic Front in order to neutralize the so-called internal agreement and liquidate the illegal racist regime of Ian Smith and the black puppets allied to him.

In conclusion Simon Muzenda noted that the governments of Great Britain, France and the United States abstained from vetoing the resolution. He declared that it is necessary not only to condemn the agreement, but to sweep it out of the history of Zimbabwe together with the three African puppets, who, by signing the internal agreement, identified themselves as an integral part of Smith's racist regime.

RHODESIA

SMITH INTERVIEWED ON FIRST MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

LD221456Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1613 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] The new Executive Council held its first meeting this afternoon in the cabinet room. After the meeting the members of the council talked to newsmen:

[Ian Smith--begin recording] I'm the first chairman. I think No 2 was Chief Chirau and No 3 was the Reverend Sithole and No 4 was Bishop Muzorewa. And that's the way it's going to go.

[Question] How did you do that, sir, [words indistinct].

[Answer] With four pieces of paper.

[Question] Mr Smith, how will you decide which men take which ministries in the Ministerial Council?

[Answer] Well, that's one of the next decisions we've got to get on to.

[Question] How about a meeting with Mr Young, Mr Smith? Can you say anything about that?

[Answer] I haven't heard about that one.

[Question] Mr Smith, who will run the war during the interim period?

[Answer] The same people who've been running it all along--the army and the air force and the police. Here we've got an OCC. [as heard; expansion unknown]

[Question] Will they be answerable to the Executive Council?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] Will there be a black minister of combined operations?

[Answer] All ministries will have a black minister [words indistinct].

[Question] Prime minister, are you going to retain your present cabinet?

[Answer] What cabinet? That question's not allowed today. You'll have to ask me that one next week.

[Question] Prime minister, how should you be addressed during this transitional period?

[Answer] Well, you can take your choice. You live in a free country, fortunately.

[Question] How do you feel personally, sir, about today? How would you describe it?

[Answer] It's a milestone, isn't it, in our history. I'm quite pragmatic about this. We've got to get on and take the decisions which are in keeping with the agreement that we signed nearly 2 weeks ago. Now let's get on with it.

[Question] When is the next meeting of the Executive Council planned?

[Answer] In the next week. We're going to have lots of meetings. We've got a lot of decisions to take. We're going to get on with the business. [end recording]

SALISBURY REPORTS DETAILS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FORMATION

LD221226Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD/CA

[Text] A spokesman for the Executive Council of the transitional government said tonight that the Executive Council had agreed today on a total of 18 ministers in the new Ministerial Council. There will be nine groups of ministries, said the spokesman, to be held jointly by nine black and nine white ministers in accordance with the settlement agreement. It was also agreed that the chairmanship on the executive would rotate on a 4-weekly basis. The prime minister was invited to be the chairman for the first period. The next meeting of the Executive Council will be held on Wednesday, March the 29th.

ZAMBIA

NKOMO INTERVIEWED ON INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA

DW222028Y East Berlin Domestic Television Service in German 1850 GMT 22 Mar 78 DW

[Heike and Christian Schneider interview with Joshua Nkomo, co-president of the Patriotic Front--date and place not given--recorded questions and answers in English with German translation superimposed]

[Text] [Question] Comrade President, how do you assess the maneuvers of the Western powers to implement the so-called internal settlement of Smith in their own interests?

[Answer] Well, the position is this: Smith has been able to carry on this internal settlement because those who are supporting him have brought him to power. They are doing it in their own interest. What actually are the real problems? They are the game of Western interests in southern Africa. They want to keep south Rhodesia and south western Namibia under their control. This is why there is the present so-called transition government to serve their own interests. Retaining the interests of Western countries in southern Africa, this has been the objective of the British and other imperialist forces.

[Question] Comrade President, does the Patriotic Front see any possibility to negotiate in the future with those participating in this neocolonialism settlement?

[Answer] No, no we have addressed the United States and Britain with a proposal in New York aimed at discussing the problem of southern Rhodesia. But we had to realize time and again that these people are working against the interests of the people of Zimbabwe. The people of Zimbabwe is embittered and considers them to be big sell-outs. Britain now is seeking to induce the United States to invite the so-called spokesman of Salisbury to a conference to ask them about their future intentions. Britain is pursuing this objective because it is well aware that we are not willing to negotiate with these so-called spokesmen from Salisbury, these puppets. These people also maintain that at first we had consented to the proposal aimed at such negotiations. But if we really had to hold negotiations, we only would have to negotiate with the British as the colonial power, and what would be most important is the problem of ending war through a juridical settlement, meaning to arrive at genuine independence from the state of war. Such negotiations would have to be carried out by the opposing forces in the struggle. It is only then that we could also discuss the issue concerning the constitution. The constitution is a matter--and we agreed to this--that we can discuss with all parties if there are parties at all, with all parties which include the Salisbury talkers and any other parties that may be in southern Rhodesia.

Further Reportage

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[Second part of Africa correspondents Heike and Christian Schneider interview with Joshua Nkomo, president of the Patriotic Front, in Lusaka, date of interview not given--recorded in English, fading to German translation]

[Text] [Question] Comrade president, though you have already mentioned it, you might perhaps be more explicit: By what means does your liberation movement propose to achieve the goal of the self-determination of the people of Zimbabwe under the present conditions.

[Answer] As you know, we have always believed that the British would decolonialize the country through negotiations. We had this attitude, but we were mistaken. Only when we realized this did we resort to arms. I personally believe that armed struggle alone can bring freedom, a reason why we are intensifying this armed struggle until victory is won. If they should then be receptive to negotiations, it will be the result of our struggle and of the sacrifices of our own blood. There is no other way. Only by sacrificing our own blood can we achieve independence for our people which will be based on true justice and self-determination.

[Question] Whom does your movement and your people regard as the true ally in this difficult struggle?

[Answer] Well, as you know in the sixties, when we realized that negotiations would not get us anywhere, we looked for allies. We approached the world and declared that we must use weapons against the fascist movement. We called on the Western countries but were unable to obtain any arms from them. They refused to supply weapons and declared that they could not support any movement which revolts against their so-called arrangement [regelung]. They declared this even though they knew that our people has been oppressed by force since 1890, oppressed by those who have been exercising power to this day and who have been keeping our people under constant oppression. They further declared that they would not support the use of force by our people. Hence, we approached the socialist countries, in particular the Soviet Union and the other East European socialist countries, as well as some other progressive countries in the world.

They have become our allies. We have been fighting with them side by side. Without the support which we have received from our friends, it would have been very difficult for us. This is why it has always been a goal of the imperialists to prevent us from receiving this support in our liberation struggle. We know that Smith used Mirage planes when he attacked Mozambique and Zambia. We know that he is disposing of such planes. He must have gotten them from France. They use a great number of Mirage planes. The bombs used were modern arms from NATO arsenals.

[Question] The continued aggression of the racist troops of the illegal Smith regime are being condemned by all progressive forces of the whole world. What are the outward and inward aims of Smith, and what hopes does he have in your opinion, Comrade President, by pursuing such an aggressive policy of murdering and bombing?

[Answer] Well, Smith obviously has the feeling that his Western allies approve his aggressive action. If they were not backing him, they would not have given him the arms he used against Zambia, Mozambique, Botswana, and so forth. I think that the Western world believes to have him under control, that it believes his army to be invincible, and that it assumes he can maintain his so-called newly established independence. It is known that the puppets who are now acting as leading politicians, asked Smith prior to the negotiations if he would be in a position to protect them against the Patriotic Front. Smith said yes. His attacks against Mozambique and other countries were supposed to be evidence of his ability to successfully fight the liberation forces of the Patriotic Front. This is the basis of the alliance.

[Question] Comrade President, what ideas has your liberation organization about a really free and independent Zimbabwe?

[Answer] Well, we have been fighting for really free Zimbabwe by demanding that Zimbabwe really should become independent, and that all the power will be given to the people of Zimbabwe. That would mean giving the power held by a small white minority for about 100 years to the majority of the people. We want to have full power, but this is not supposed to be an end in itself. We need the power in order to revolutionize the entire life of the people of Zimbabwe. We want to make Zimbabwe a country where the people will be ruling itself in order to fulfill its necessary demands. We want to create a Zimbabwe where the soil, which was given to us by God as a natural gift, will belong to the people and not to individual persons. In this way all the products of the soil will be for the people. The government will take care of every family, of education, training, health, transport, and housing construction. In short: We do not want to have a country where a small number of individuals will exploit their fellow human beings.

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